

NC asks cadre to brace party at grassroots level

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JAMMU: Sheikh Bashir Ahmad, Pardeep Bali and Ayub Malik Provincial Secretaries Jammu, District Presidents of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference—Chander Mohan Sharma, Raghuveer Singh Manhas, Naresh Bittu, Sunil Verma, Ram Parshotam and other party functionaries felicitated Sandeep Singh Wazir from Jammu and Akash Verma from Udhampur on their nomination as Additional Spokespersons of the party, in a function held at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan, Jammu.

The occasion was graced and blessed by Additional General Secretary and former Minister Ajay Kumar Sadhotra, Provincial President Jammu Rattan Lal Gupta and senior party leader and former Minister S. Harbans Singh who congratulated the newly appointed leaders and urged them to uphold the values and vision of the National Conference. During the programme, Zeeshan Rana, Yashu Vardhan, and Imran Qazi, earlier Additional Spokespersons of the party, were also felicitated for their valuable contribution and dedicated service.

Addressing the gathering, Ajay Sadhotra raised serious concern over the ongoing dual power structure in Jammu and Kashmir, stating that it is creating unnecessary hurdles in the effective functioning of governance. He said, "People are suffering due to confusion and lack of accountability." He strongly reiterated for restoration of full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir and



an end to the dual power structure, which he termed as undemocratic and detrimental to public welfare. Gupta, while speaking on the occasion, said that the best performance of Omar Led government in Jammu and Kashmir the emphasized of the nine months achievement of the Omar Led government. He highlighted key initiatives taken

by the NC-led government within the first five months of its tenure, including free travel for women in government-operated buses, enhancement of marriage assistance from Rs 50,000 to Rs 75,000, provision of 200 units of free electricity per month for AAY households, and doubling of the monthly free ration quota from 5 kg to 10 kg per person for

AAY families, enhancement of pension of Old age, widow and handicapped persons from Rs 1000 to Rs 1500, Rs 2000 (Senior Citizen) Per month. Senior leader S. Harbans Singh lauded the performance of the National Conference-led dispensation under Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, stating that the first nine months of the present tenure have reflected a clear roadmap for youth empowerment, development, and inclusive governance.

The District Presidents of Jammu present on the occasion assured the leadership that the party's message will be taken to every household and the cadre will remain united and active ahead of the upcoming electoral battles.

The newly appointed Additional Spokespersons, while thanking the party high command and senior leaders Farooq Abdullah, CM Omar Abdullah, General Secretary Ali Mohd Sagar, Ajay Sadhotra and Rattan Lal Gupta for reposing faith in them, expressed their commitment to stand by the party's principles and work diligently to strengthen the organization across Jammu and Kashmir.

DM reviews functioning of Revenue Deptt at Pargwal



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JAMMU: District Magistrate Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, conducted an official visit to Pargwal Tehsil, during which he reviewed the functioning of the Revenue Department and inspected ongoing field activities.

As part of his visit, the DM toured several villages to assess public service delivery and issued on-spot instructions to concerned officers for improved efficiency and responsiveness. He emphasized the need for proactive governance and effective public interface. During the tour, the District Magistrate Jammu also inspected a Fair Price Shop under the Department of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs. He directed Tehsildar Pargwal, Manjeet Singh to seal the shop for floating the norms. Acting promptly on the instructions, the Tehsildar Pargwal sealed the Fair Price Shop on the spot.

He was accompanied by Assistant Commissioner (Revenue) Jammu, Rajesh Kumar and Sub Divisional Magistrate Marh Athar Amin Zargar, who were also present during the visit and contributed to the departmental review. The visit concluded with reaffirmed commitments towards strengthening field-level administration and addressing local concerns with prompt redressal.

BJP OBC Morcha holds workers' meet

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JAMMU: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) OBC Morcha organised a workers' meeting on Saturday at the BJP Headquarters in Trikuta Nagar, Jammu. The meeting was chaired by Jammu and Kashmir BJP President, Sat Sharma (CA) and Stage Shared by Sunil Prajapati (President BJP OBC Morcha), Rash Pal Verma (National Secretary OBC Morcha) and Braham Jyot Satti (Prabhati OBC Morcha).

During the meeting, Sat Sharma discussed the upcoming organizational programs and emphasized the need to strengthen the party's reach at the booth, ward, and panchayat levels. He urged workers to mobilize dedicated teams across these levels with a focused effort on raising



awareness among OBC communities about the upcoming caste census, which holds vital importance for ensuring social justice and equitable development.

He further instructed the cadre to actively participate in PM Narendra Modi's 'Mann Ki Baat' program, ensuring it is heard with a minimum gathering of 20 persons at each booth. "Such group listening events should be followed by discussion sessions on the achievements and ongoing initiatives of the government, to foster informed dialogue at the grassroots level," he said.

The meeting saw enthusiastic participation from party workers, OBC Morcha office bearers, and ground-level karyakartas, all of whom committed to intensifying outreach efforts in their respective areas.

The BJP OBC Morcha reiterated its commitment to ensuring inclusive development and empowering backward communities through sustained engagement and awareness.

4 dumpers seized for illegal mining

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SAMBA: Continuing its drive against illegal mining, Samba Police has seized four dumpers in the jurisdiction of Police Stations Ghagwal and Samba which were being used for illegal transportation/mining of the construction material.

Police teams headed by Incharge Police Post Rajpura of PS Ghagwal and Incharge Police Post Mansar of PS Samba while performing patrolling duty in their jurisdictional areas, have seized four dumpers bearing registration Nos. JK21G-8585, JK21-8772, JK02BV-2458, JK20C-5556 which were being used for illegal transportation/mining of the construction material in the area. The above mentioned vehicles have been seized by Samba Police and handed over to the Geology & Mining Department, Samba for further legal action.

Ravinder leads protest against SCARD Bank

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JAMMU: Former MLC and Chief Spokesperson JKPC on Saturday led a strong protest demonstration in Sunderbani against the SCARD Bank for its refusal to release deposits of the farmers in bank and demanded a high level inquiry into the affairs of bank to ensure disbursement of the hard earned deposits of people.

The protesters also highlighted discrimination with Sunderbani in the recent sanctions of road projects wherein no road projects of the area was sanctioned as against dozens of roads in other constituencies including Nowshera and Kalakote area of Sunderbani Kalakote constituency. They sought answers from the government and those at the helm of affairs at present for their failures

to ensure justice and equitable treatment with Sunderbani.

They also raised the demand for early restoration of statehood as the dual system even after elections is injustice and betrayal with the people, who are suffering a lot in every spheres. Earlier addressing a workers meeting at Sunderbani, expressed grave concern over the stoppage of payments of hard earned money of the farmers, deposited by them in the state Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development (SCARD) Bank and urged the Chief Minister to order an enquiry into the affairs of the bank to secure the deposits of the farmers in the bank over the years and for early disbursement to them..

He said the farmers are in panic as the fate of deposits of crores of rupees

in the bank is not known to them.

There are similar reports from other parts, as bank has 57 branches including 24 in Jammu province alone where mostly farmers are the clients of the bank all over J&K & Ladakh. He also highlighted the issue of non section of any road project in Sunderbani sub Division this year against dozens of roads to other areas and constituencies. He asked the government to ensure justice with Sunderbani area and ensure equitable share to all areas otherwise people shall hold strong protests.

Sharma also criticised centre government and BJP for delay in restoring statehood and said Hamari Riyasat Hamara Haq struggle of Congress shall be intensified, announcing strong protest on 5th August for statehood.

84 Bn CRPF assist in rescuing injured pilgrims at Chanderkote

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RAMBAN: Bus bearing registration number MP 10 ZF 7999 carrying Pilgrims of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, bound for Pahalgam, lost control and rammed on the other Yatri buses parked at breakfast halting point t Chanderkote.

In the accident, five buses suffered damage and more than 36 Pilgrims, hailing from Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, sustained injuries. Along with the District Administration, the mobile medical team of 84 Bn CRPF, under command Dr Anu Gorke SMO, rushed to the spot and provided immediate medical attention and helped in evacuation of the injured Pilgrims. After supervising the rescue operations at the accident spot, N Ranbir Singh Commandant 84 Bn CRPF also visited the injured pilgrims at District Hospital Ramban. Most of the injured Pilgrims are stable and out of danger.



Some Pilgrims, with minor injuries, proceeded towards Pahalgam in the spare Buses immediately arranged by the District Administration. The Pilgrims thanked the CRPF and District Administration for providing the assistance timely.

The 84 Bn CRPF continues to play a pivotal role in maintaining security and steadfast support for the welfare of people across. Its commitment to both operational excellence and humanitarian assistance remains unwavering.

POONCH: Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Vikas Kundal on Saturday conducted an extensive inspection of the ongoing developmental works along the Chandak-Mandi road, with a special focus on upgradation works being undertaken in preparation for the upcoming Shri Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra-2025.

During the visit, the DC was accompanied by the concerned executing officers. While inspecting the project, the DC took stock of the road surface conditions, drainage infrastructure and other vital components.

He directed the executing departments to ensure timely completion of macadamization work before the commencement of the Yatra to facilitate smooth and safe movement of devotees.

As part of the developmental review, the Deputy Commissioner also inspected two major bridge construction projects.

150-meter span motorable bridge over the Mandi River at Sathra – The bridge sanctioned under NABARD will provide direct connectivity to over 10 Panchayats across the river.

The DC reviewed the site and assessed the pace and quality of ongoing construction work.

Bridge on NH-144A – The DC inspected the foundation and girder casting work of this crucial infrastructure project and instructed the executing agency to accelerate progress while strictly maintaining quality and safety standards.

He stressed that all ongoing developmental works must be completed in a time-bound manner and as per approved engineering specifications for the benefit of the locals.

Grand Rath Yatra taken out in Akhnoor

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AKHNOOR: Grand Rath Yatra with the idols of Lord Jagannath, Balabrada and Devi Subhadra was organised which starts from Prabhupada Prayer Center in Akhnoor on Saturday.

Hundreds of tribals participated in the Lord Jagannath Rath Yatra taken out from the Pakka Danga area of Kumbh and shouted slogans in praise of Lord Jagannath and thanked him by pulling the ropes of the chariots. The Lord Jagannath Rath Yatra passed through Ramatalai, Sungal Mod, Final Shock, Bus Stand and ended at Swargaksham Jiyapota Ghat.



The women chariot involved in the Rath Yatra sang bhajans praising the glory of Lord Jagannath. Meanwhile, various mandals chanted Hari Bol,

Hare Ram Hare Ram Hare Hare, Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Hare Hare, Lord Jagannath's slogans. The atmosphere was made devotional by

artists cleaning the Rath Yatra route with colorful rangolis and female artists cleaning the Rath Yatra route while chanting Hare Krishna.

GOC Tiger Division interacts with veterans

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JAMMU: The General Officer Commanding, Tiger Division interacted with veterans at the valedictory function of a five-day Civil Defence training program. The program was organized by Sainik Welfare Department under the leadership of Brigadier Gurmeet Singh Shan, (Retired) in cooperation with the State Disaster Response Force

(SDRF) and Civil Defence department, aimed to equip Ex-Service-men (ESMs) with the necessary skills for deployment at vital installations in Jammu district.

The GOC hailed the veterans' undying resolve, noble legacy, and timeless service to the nation, embodying the spirit that "once a soldier, always a soldier" emphasising the enduring dedication and commitment of soldiers, even after

their active service.

The Civil Defence training program is a testament to the government's effort to utilize the skills and experience of ESMs in disaster response and management. The program's focus on deploying ESMs at vital installations in Jammu district highlights the importance of their role in maintaining national security and public safety.